

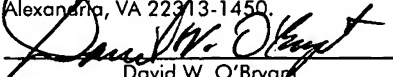


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Tracy W. Nelson  
SERIAL NO.: 10/705,668  
FILING DATE: 11/10/2003  
TITLE: FRICTION STIR WELDING OF  
METAL MATRIX COMPOSITES,  
FERROUS ALLOYS, NON-  
FERROUS ALLOYS, AND  
SUPERALLOYS USING A  
SUPERABRASIVE TOOL  
ART UNIT: 1725  
EXAMINER: Stoner, Kiley Shawn  
DOCKET NO.: 1219.BYU.CN

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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David W. O'Bryan

1/12/2006  
Date of Deposit

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2005, Applicant offers the following Amendment and requests consideration and examination of the above-captioned application.

This paper includes the following sections:

- Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper; and
- Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper